

# The Nationwide Rivers Inventory 14 Segments for the State of Nevada

Reference Source: <http://www.nps.gov/nrcr/programs/rtca/nri/> Note: Outstanding Resource Values (ORVs) Definitions at List Bottom

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River	County	Reach	Length (miles)	Year Listed/	Potential Classification	ORVs	Description	Other States
Big Wash, South Fork	White Pine	Entire segment within Great Basin National Park	4	1993	W, S	F	Exceptional water quality. Valuable fishery habitat.	
Carson River, East Fork	Douglas (Alpine CA)	Hangmans Bridge to Ruhestroth Dam	20	1982/ 1993	S	S, R, F	See Carson River, East Fork, CA Comments1	CA
Carson River, East Fork	Douglas (Alpine CA)	Wolf Creek to Hangmans Bridge	9	1982/ 1993	R	S, R, F	See Carson River, East Fork, CA Comments1	CA
Carson River, East Fork	Douglas (Alpine CA)	Last diversion dam approximately 1 mile above Lahonton Fish Hatchery to source	52	1982		S, R, F	See Carson River, East Fork, CA Comments1	CA

**Carson River, East Fork, CA Comments1:** Traversing a variety of ecosystems, the river descends east slope of Sierras through granite canyons with pine forests and alpine meadows to emerge into the sagebrush covered foothills and desert canyons of Nevada; upper reaches State designated Wild Trout Stream; large portion upper reaches proposed for wilderness designation; headwaters habitat of federally listed threatened Lahontan cutthroat trout; premium whitewater, used extensively by commercial and private rafters; provides unique opportunity for overnight float trips east of Sierras.

Carson River, East Fork	Douglas (Alpine CA)	Source to Wolf Creek	27	1982/ 1993	W	S, R, F, O	See Carson River, East Fork, CA Comments2	CA
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**Carson River, East Fork, CA Comments2:** Pristine scenery as descends east slope of Sierra through granite canyon and coniferous forests to sagebrush covered foothills and desert canyons. Sport fishing for trout, rafting, kayaking, and canoeing.

Jarbridge River, West Fork	Elko	Idaho-Nevada border to source	17	1982		S, R, F	See Jarbridge River, West Fork Comments	
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**Jarbridge River, West Fork Comments:** Scenic stream originating in the Jarbridge Wilderness Area and flowing through a deeply cut canyon offering dense tree cover and surrounded by high mountain peaks. Highly successful wild trout fishery with rainbow trout being the most abundant. Also possesses the only resident populations of Dolly Vardon trout found in Nevada. Paralleling road provides recreational access to the lower reaches, while the upper reaches offer backpacking and primitive camping opportunities.

Little Humboldt River, North Fork	Humboldt	Reservoir at Little Humboldt River confluence to source	45	1982		S, O	See Little Humboldt River, North Fork Comments	
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**Little Humboldt River, North Fork Comments:** Primitive and pristine stream; cold desert vistas with occasional spectacular views in 300' gorge; river is remote and access is limited; unique cliff vegetation with a number of unusual endemic and sensitive plant species found in the gorge area.

Marys River	Elko	West boundary of Sec. 13, T42N, R59E to source	26	1982		S, F	See Marys River Comments	
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**Marys River Comments:** Flows through rolling foothills interspersed with flat tablelands; scattered pinon-juniper conifers in upper reaches, sage-grassland in lower reaches; relatively thick riparian vegetation; upper portion within Jarbridge Wilderness Area; provides significant habitat for Lahontan cutthroat trout, a federally listed threatened species and various sensitive species of raptors.

Owyhee River, South Fork	Elko (Owyhee, ID)	East Owyhee River confluence to gauging station approximately 3.5 miles above Fourmile Creek confluence	54	1982		R, G, F	Major dry region, deep canyon stream with entrenched meanders and many wild areas (See NWRO for base data and details).	ID
Virgin River	Clark	Arizona-Nevada State border to Lake Mead	30	1982/ 1993	R	S, G, F, W	See Virgin River Comments	

**Virgin River Comments:** Woundfin minnow, endangered species, and Virgin River chub. Opportunity for nature study, interpretation, hunting, and non-consumptive recreational activities.

Virgin River	Elko	Lake Mead to Highway 17 near Hurricane, UT	76	1982		S, F, W, O	See Virgin River, UT comments.	AZ,UT
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**Virgin River, UT Comments:** Flows through spectacular Virgin Canyon with distinct rock stratification; contains one of least disturbed and most unique aquatic and riparian ecosystems in Colorado River System; unusual blending of bird species; diverse mammalian fauna, especially bats; large numbers of reptilian species and the presence of rare, threatened and endangered species.

Walker River, East	Lyon	NV/CA border to bridge crossing near Flying M Ranch headquarters	26	1982/ 1993		S, R, C, O	See Walker River, East Comments1	
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**Walker River, East Comments1:** Ranked in top 10 percent of free-flowing rivers in Great Basin Province by NPS. History of Great Basin Indian tribes recorded in petroglyphs.

River	County	Reach	Length (miles)	Year Listed/ Updated	Potential Classification	ORVs	Description	Other States
Walker River, East	Mineral	Bridge crossing near Sweetwater Creek confluence to bridge crossing near headquarters of Flying M Ranch	24	1982		S, R, C	See Walker River, East Comments2	

**Walker River, East Comments2:** A prime example of a rugged, scenic waterway in the Great Basin Province; BLM designated scenic area; provides unique recreation opportunities especially water related activities in a high desert environment; Great Basin Indian petroglyphs are found along the river corridor.

Walker River, West	Mono (Lyon, Douglas CA)	Walker River confluence to source	83	1982		S, R, F	See Walker River, West, CA comments.	CA
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**Walker River, West CA Comments:** Originating in the eastern slopes of the Sierras, water course swiftly descends first through glaciated alpine meadows then ponderosa pine forests before entering the broad expanse of the Great Basin; scenery is diverse and exceptional; one of the last complete and undeveloped eastern Sierra drainage systems; premium trout fishery; habitat of threatened Lahontan cutthroat trout; outstanding recreational opportunities.

## Outstanding Resource Values (ORV) Definitions:

**Scenery (S):** The landscape elements of landform, vegetation, water, color, and related factors result in notable or exemplary visual features and/or attractions. When analyzing scenic values, additional factors -- such as seasonal variations in vegetation, scale of cultural modifications, and the length of time negative intrusions are viewed -- may be considered. Scenery and visual attractions may be highly diverse over the majority of the river or river segment.

**Recreation (R):** Recreational opportunities are, or have the potential to be, popular enough to attract visitors from throughout or beyond the region of comparison or are unique or rare within the region. Visitors are willing to travel long distances to use the river resources for recreational purposes. River-related opportunities could include, but are not limited to, sightseeing, wildlife observation, camping, photography, hiking, fishing and boating.

- Interpretive opportunities may be exceptional and attract, or have the potential to attract, visitors from outside the region of comparison.
- The river may provide, or have the potential to provide, settings for national or regional usage or competitive events.
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**Geology (G):** The river, or the area within the river corridor, contains one or more example of a geologic feature, process or phenomenon that is unique or rare within the region of comparison. The feature(s) may be in an unusually active stage of development, represent a "textbook" example, and/or represent a unique or rare combination of geologic features (erosional, volcanic, glacial, or other geologic structures).

**Fish (F):** Fish values may be judged on the relative merits of either fish populations, habitat, or a combination of these river-related conditions.

- *Populations:* The river is nationally or regionally an important producer of resident and/or anadromous fish species. Of particular significance is the presence of wild stocks and/or federal or state listed (or candidate) threatened, endangered or sensitive species. Diversity of species is an important consideration and could, in itself, lead to a determination of "outstandingly remarkable."
- *Habitat:* The river provides exceptionally high quality habitat for fish species indigenous to the region of comparison. Of particular significance is habitat for wild stocks and/or federal or state listed (or candidate) threatened, endangered or sensitive species. Diversity of habitats is an important consideration and could, in itself, lead to a determination of "outstandingly remarkable."

**Wildlife (W):** Wildlife values may be judged on the relative merits of either terrestrial or aquatic wildlife populations or habitat or a combination of these conditions.

- *Populations:* The river, or area within the river corridor, contains nationally or regionally important populations of indigenous wildlife species. Of particular significance are species considered to be unique, and/or populations of federal or state listed (or candidate) threatened, endangered or sensitive species. Diversity of species is an important consideration and could, in itself, lead to a determination of "outstandingly remarkable."
- *Habitat:* The river, or area within the river corridor, provides exceptionally high quality habitat for wildlife of national or regional significance, and/or may provide unique habitat or a critical link in habitat conditions for federal or state listed (or candidate) threatened, endangered or sensitive species. Contiguous habitat conditions are such that the biological needs of the species are met. Diversity of habitats is an important consideration and could, in itself, lead to a determination of "outstandingly remarkable."

**Prehistory (P):** The river, or area within the river corridor, contains a site(s) where there is evidence of occupation or use by Native Americans. Sites must have unique or rare characteristics or exceptional human interest value(s). Sites may have national or regional importance for interpreting prehistory; may be rare and represent an area where a culture or cultural period was first identified and described; may have been used concurrently by two or more cultural groups; and/or may have been used by cultural groups for rare sacred purposes. Many such sites are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, which is administered by the NPS.

**History (H):** The river or area within the river corridor contains a site(s) or feature(s) associated with a significant event, an important person, or a cultural activity of the past that was rare or one-of-a-kind in the region. Many such sites are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. A historic site(s) and/or features(s) is 50 years old or older in most cases.

**Cultural (C):** The river or area within the river corridor contains archaeological sites or areas significant to traditional cultures. Examples might be American Indian burial grounds, petroglyphs, the oldest known human use site in a region, or streams that support traditional agriculture, subsistence fishing, or religious ceremonies.

**Other Values (O):** While no specific national evaluation guidelines have been developed for the "other similar values" category, assessments of additional river-related values consistent with the foregoing guidance may be developed -- including, but not limited to, hydrology, paleontology and botany resources.